

Missoula selected for Any Given Child program

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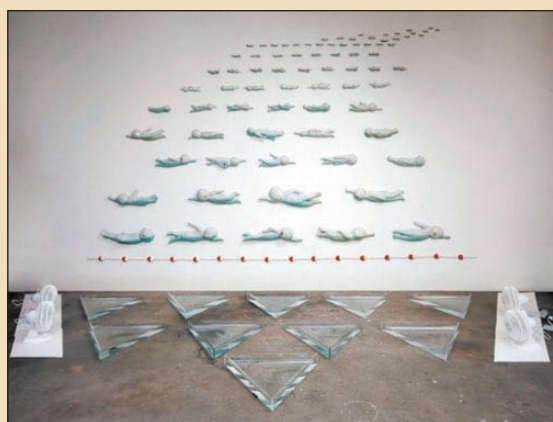


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MONTANA ART NEWS



"Breath" by Beth Lo

Artist Beth Lo creates work for International Ceramic Biennale

University of Montana Professor Beth Lo was one of four American artists paid a commission of \$3,000 to create a ceramic piece of art for a major Korean art exhibit. Lo's work will be featured in the Main Exhibition of the Seventh Geonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2013.

Lo traveled to Korea Sept. 25 to attend the exhibition and delivered a gallery talk on her work Oct. 2.

The theme of the 2013 exhibition is community, and Lo chose to portray "a lot of figures, a sea of humanity, a community of people that 'swim' through life" in her new work, "Breath." In a departure from her usual ceramic sculptures, the mixed media piece also includes water, electricity and lighting.

See Professor Beth Lo on page 13



Architect's rendering of the New Pantages

The New Pantages: Rebirth of an old theater

Plans are in the works to build a new, mid-size theatre in the space once occupied by the elegant old Pantages in downtown Great Falls.

The restoration is part of efforts to resuscitate the old Rocky Mountain Building, which was devastated by fire in 2009. The building was purchased in June by architect and developer Randy Hafer and High Plains Architects, along with several Great Falls businesspeople and a Virginia-based investment group.

The Friends of the New Pantages, whose members include musician Philip Aaberg and his wife, Patty, Cascade County Historic Preservation officer Ellen Sievert, Great Falls Cascade County Historic Preservation Commission historian Ken Robison, Carol Bronson and Bruce Cusker, are working to create a 500-seat theater in the space previously occupied by the historic Pantages.

The original theatre was built in 1914 as a vaudeville house, was renamed the Rainbow Theatre in 1924, and closed in 1964.

See New Pantages on page 13

Emily Kohring hired to head arts education

The Montana Arts Council is pleased to announce that Emily Kohring is the new director of Arts Education, taking the reins upon the retirement of Beck McLaughlin.

"I am looking forward to a position where I get to support arts organizations, teaching artists, schools and educators, and help them get the resources to do their best possible work," she says.

Kohring grew up in Helena and got her start in theatre at Grandstreet Theatre School. She received her BFA in theatre from the University of Idaho (1993), and spent several years as an actor, director, stage manager and teaching artist with Missoula Children's Theatre, Fort Peck Summer Theatre, Idaho Repertory Theatre and several other professional theaters in the Minneapolis and Seattle areas.

In 2002 she earned her MFA in Theater for Youth from Arizona State University, and then spent nine years as education director and artistic associate at Metro Theater Company in St. Louis. During her tenure as education director, Metro received a FOCUS St. Louis Award for "Creating High-Quality Education Opportunities" for St. Louis youth.

Kohring oversaw all of Metro's theater programs for K-12 students and educators, including their signature program, "Building Community through Drama," and was honored with a Promising Practices Award from the Character Education Partnership. She also facilitated professional development institutes for INTERCHANGE, a Ford Foundation-funded initiative to provide arts-integrated learning to St. Louis Public School students.

Kohring has been involved in the development of multiple new plays for young audiences as a director and dramaturg, and has guest directed at First Stage Milwaukee, Stage One Children's Theatre in Louisville, Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, New Plays for Young Audiences at the Provincetown Playhouse and the Bonderman/

Indiana Repertory Theater National Young Playwrighting Symposium.

She most recently spent two years in the classroom as a theatre instructor at a charter school for the visual and performing arts. Kohring also served on the faculty of the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission's Community Arts Training Institute, a national training model that brings together artists, community leaders and social service professionals to build community arts programming for underserved communities.

Kohring believes her experience in the classroom will help her connect better with teachers, "because I get the challenges and obstacles they work through on a daily basis."

"I hope this will lead to a great dialogue with educators about the value of arts education, and will help us problem-solve together some of the

barriers schools are facing in providing access to the arts for every student, and explore new and innovative ways the Montana Arts Council can support arts education for K-12 students," she says.

"We are thrilled to have Emily on board," says Arni Fishbaugh, director of the Montana Arts Council. "Her experience as a teaching artist, an educator and an arts education director in a major nonprofit arts organization is perfect."

"She has already met with Beck McLaughlin to get her bead on things and set up meetings with arts leaders and the Office of Public Instruction," adds Fishbaugh. "She's eager to meet people and learn all she can as she begins her work here."

Kohring lives in Helena with her husband, Eric, a Midwest transplant, and their daughter, Ella.

To contact her, email ekohring@mt.gov or call 406-444-6522.



Emily Kohring looks forward to "a great dialogue with educators." For more on MAC's new Arts Education director, see page 6.

MAP Artists Gathering MAC's Artrepreneur Showcase and Sale: Nov. 2 in Hamilton

By Cindy Kittredge
Folk Arts and Market Development
Specialist

The Montana Arts Council's Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) Artist's Gathering Showcase and Sale will take place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 in the Exhibition Hall at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds in Hamilton.

The annual Showcase and Sale features 80 Montana artists from across the state who participate in the arts council's MAP program, which is designed to help artists develop sustainable arts businesses. These artists have distinguished themselves with the quality of functional three-dimensional art as well as the two-dimensional work they create. Artists attending this event represent individuals who are gaining recognition beyond their communities, with a number of them having participated in national juried shows, such as the Western Design Conference held in Jackson Hole, WY.

The work available for purchase in this year's Artists



Glass artist Stephanie Smith, a member of the Bitterroot MAP cohort, speaks to a prospective customer at last year's MAP Gathering in Kalispell.

Gathering Showcase includes items in clay, fiber and fabric, glass, leather, and mixed media. The show includes oil painters, graphite artists, photographers, watercolorists, and artists who paint on silk, weave tapestries, create fine wood furniture, work with stones and gems to form jewelry, create quilts, and make beads.

After the Artist Gathering Showcase and Sale, artists will participate in two days of workshops, Nov. 3-4, led by established leaders in the field. Topics include improving verbal communication skills, assessing and dealing with risk, building capacity with a client base, developing licensing opportunities, harnessing social media, developing a brand, and tapping into imagination.

See MAP Gathering on page 5